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## Construction LLC

U.S. EPA  
ATTN: Harbor Comments  
805 SW Broadway, Suite 500  
Portland, OR 97205

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OREGON OPERATIONS OFFICE

AUG 29 2016

EPA-REGION 10

I am the owner of Jeff McCoy Construction, LLC, a residential remodeling business I have operated for eight years. I oppose the EPA proposal for cleaning up the Portland Harbor Superfund site because it would hurt the local economy without achieving its intended environmental goals. Based entirely on data from 2004 and 2008, the proposal fails to take into account research from 2014 showing that the Willamette River has already removed 40% of contaminants on its own. It is hard to trust a proposal that ignores inconvenient data. Dredging up buried contaminants is unnecessary and counterproductive. It would be much better to allow nature to work wherever possible, using dredging only where it is truly needed.

If this plan were implemented, the river would become a permanent construction site for years, probably decades. This would have a negative impact on the economy because no one who depends on the river will be able to use it anymore. A lot of my materials come in through the ports, and having them transported overland instead will increase my operating costs. Taxes would have to be increased to pay for the cleanup, which would likely cost well over one billion dollars. I pay enough to the government in taxes already, and I cannot afford to pay any more. In the face of a substantial tax increase, I would most likely have to close up business. I hope the EPA will look at all their options before agreeing to move forward this. Please consider taking advantage of natural decontamination instead of relying entirely on dredging, for the sake of the economy of Portland.

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Owner

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Portland, OR 97282